

MEMO

TO: Prevention Partnership Providers and
Local Public Health Units

FROM: Heather Weaver
Immunization Program Manager

RE: State-Supplied Second Dose Varicella Vaccine:
VFC-Only

DATE: August 8, 2006

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) Immunization Program will be supplying the newly recommended second dose of varicella vaccine to providers for use in only those who are **Vaccines For Children (VFC) eligible: 18 years and younger and Medicaid-eligible, Native American or those with no insurance. Underinsured children should be referred to a Rural Health Clinic (RHC) or Federally-Qualified Health Center (FQHC) for second-dose varicella vaccination, as with all VFC-only vaccines.** Please see the enclosed list of RHCs and FQHCs in North Dakota.

The NDDoH will continue to provide varicella vaccine for use in all children, including those with insurance, for the first dose in the series. The NDDoH will also continue to supply 2 doses of varicella vaccine for all children who receive their first dose when they are 13 years or older.

If providers want to vaccinate insured children with a second dose of varicella, they will need to purchase private vaccine and bill the insurance company. The NDDoH is hoping that this situation is temporary and that in the future, second dose varicella vaccine will be provided universally.

MMRV (Proquad®) is approved for a two-dose series for children ages 12 and younger. State-supplied MMRV can be used for all children for the first doses of MMR and varicella vaccines, if both vaccines are indicated. MMRV can be used for **only VFC-eligible children** for the second doses of MMR and varicella vaccines, if both vaccines are indicated.

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An updated NDDoH Immunization Program Vaccine Coverage Table is enclosed. The coverage table provides information about which vaccines the state provides and the age restrictions and eligibility criteria for receiving state-supplied vaccine.

In June, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to recommend a second dose of varicella vaccine to be given at ages 4 to 6. The first dose is still recommended to be given at 12 to 15 months. The ACIP also recommended that children, adolescents and adults who previously received one dose should receive a second dose. Please see the enclosed "Minimum Intervals for MMR and Varicella Second Doses Guidelines."

North Dakota state law requires all children attending kindergarten through second grade to be age-appropriately immunized against varicella, which includes the second dose of the vaccine. The NDDoH Immunization Program is working closely with the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction to ensure that children will not be kept out of school for not having a second dose of varicella vaccine this school year due to the recommendation being new and low supplies of varicella vaccine in the state. Please see the enclosed "2006-2007 School Immunization Requirements."

Please contact the NDDoH Immunization Program with any questions or concerns at 701.328.3386 or toll-free at 800.472.2180.

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Terry Dwelle, State Health Officer
Dr. Craig Lambrecht, State Medical Director
Kirby Kruger, Director
Molly Sander, Immunization Surveillance Coordinator
Stacy Lovelace, Vaccines for Children Coordinator

Minimum Intervals for MMR and Varicella Second Doses

Age at First Dose	Minimum Interval
MMR	
All ages	4 weeks
Varicella	
< 13 years	3 months
≥ 13 years	4 weeks

For combination vaccines, such as MMRV, the minimum interval between doses is equal to the greatest interval of any of the individual components. Therefore, the minimum interval between doses of MMRV is three months.



School Immunization Requirements 2006-07 School Year

Immunizations Required

	Minimum Number of Doses Required Per Grade	
Vaccine Type	Kindergarten-Grade 6	Grades 7-12
DTaP/DTP/DT/Td	4 or more*	4 or more*
IPV/OPV	4 [†]	4 [†]
MMR	2	2 [¶]
Chickenpox (Varicella)	2 [#]	
Hepatitis B	3 [£]	

- * One dose must have been given on or after the 4th birthday. Three doses Td required for children age 7 or older not previously vaccinated.
- † **In all IPV or all OPV schedule:** If the third dose was given on or after the 4th birthday, the fourth dose is not required. If a child has received a total of four doses of **any combination** of OPV and IPV at least four weeks apart, he (she) is considered adequately immunized against polio.
- ¶ Two doses of MMR given on or after the first birthday at least four weeks apart are required for children who entered kindergarten or first grade in the 1992-93 school year and thereafter. Each subsequent year, the next higher grade is included; e.g., **for the 2006-07 school year, two doses of MMR are required of children attending kindergarten through grade twelve.**
- # Chickenpox (Varicella) vaccine will be required for entrance into kindergarten, effective with the 2004-2005 school year and thereafter. Each subsequent year, the next higher grade is included; e.g., **for the 2006-07 school year, two doses of chickenpox vaccine is required of children attending kindergarten through second grade, as supplies are available in North Dakota.** If a child has had history of chickenpox disease, the child is exempt from the vaccine requirement.
- £ Three doses of hepatitis B vaccine will be required for entrance into kindergarten, effective with the 2000-01 school year and thereafter. Each subsequent year, the next higher grade is included; e.g., **for the 2006-07 school year, three doses of hepatitis B vaccine is required of children attending kindergarten through sixth grade.**

Exemptions

Students may be exempt from immunization requirements for the following reasons:

- **Medical Exemption:** Requires a certificate from a licensed physician stating that the physical condition of the child is such that immunization would endanger the life or health of the child.
- **Philosophical, Moral or Religious Belief Exemption:** Requires a certificate signed by the parent or guardian whose sincerely held philosophical, moral or religious belief is opposed to such immunization.
- **History of Disease Exemption:** Requires a certificate signed by the parent or guardian or physician stating that the child has a reliable history of chickenpox disease.

Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics that provide NDDoH vaccine

Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers		
Name of Clinic	City	Phone Number
Coal Country Community Health Center	Beulah	701-873-4445
Family Health Care Center	Fargo	701-239-7111
Valley Community Health Center	Northwood	701-587-6000
Northland Community Health Clinic	Rolette	701-246-3391
Northland Community Health Clinic	Turtle Lake	701-448-9225
Rural Health Clinics		
Name of Clinic	City	Phone Number
AMC Clinic	Ashley	701-288-3448
Beach Medical Clinic	Beach	701-872-3777
Garrison Memorial Hospital Beulah Family Clinic	Beulah	701-873-4242
St. Andrew's Bottineau Clinic	Bottineau	701-228-9400
West River Health Clinic	Bowman	701-523-3271
Towner County Medical Center	Cando	701-968-3337
CliniCare	Cavalier	701-265-8461
Cooperstown Medical Center	Cooperstown	701-797-2128
Johnson Clinic P.C.	Dunseith	701-224-5694
Meritcare Clinic Edgeley	Edgeley	701-493-2245
Avera United Clinic – Ellendale	Ellendale	701-349-3666
Southeast Medical Center – Ellendale	Ellendale	701-349-3331
Southeast Medical Center – Forman	Forman	701-724-3221
Garrison Family Clinic	Garrison	701-463-2245
Glen Ullin Family Medical Center	Glen Ullin	701-348-9175
Grafton Family Clinic	Grafton	701-352-2000
Southeast Medical Center – Gwinner	Gwinner	701-678-2263
Garrison Memorial Hospital Hazen Family Clinic	Hazen	701-748-2256
Meritcare Clinic Hillsboro	Hillsboro	701-436-5311
Kulm Community Clinic	Kulm	701-647-2345
Meritcare Clinic Lamoure	Lamoure	701-883-5048
Southeast Medical Center – Lamoure	Lamoure	701-883-5048
Southeast Medical Center – Lidgerwood	Lidgerwood	701-538-4189
Johnson Clinic P.C.	Maddock	701-438-2555
West River Health Clinic	Mott	701-824-2391
Napolean Clinic	Napolean	701-754-2322
Rainy Butte Medical Clinic	New England	701-579-4860
West River Health Clinic	New England	701-579-4507
New Salem Community Clinic	New Salem	701-843-8303
Southeast Medical Center – Oakes	Oakes	701-742-3267
First Care Health Center	Park River	701-284-7555
Rolla Clinic	Rolla	701-477-3111
Johnson Clinic	Rugby	701-776-5235
West River Health Clinic	Scranton	701-275-6336
Tioga Medical Center Clinic	Tioga	701-664-3305
Johnson Clinic P.C.	Towner	701-537-5436
Washburn Family Clinic	Washburn	701-462-3396
McKenzie County Healthcare Systems Clinic	Watford City	701-842-3771
Wishek Clinic	Wishek	701-452-2364